

**STATE FIRE MARSHAL
DRAFT OF PROPOSED CHANGES
TO TITLE 24 REGULATIONS MOVING R-6 OCCUPANCY
APPENDIX 3A TO CHAPTER 3**

Justification: The entire R-6 section is being relocated from Appendix Chapter 3A to Chapter 3. Due to the section location in the existing code, many jurisdictions, builders and designers do not realize that Group R, Division 6 Occupancies are specific occupancies with specific requirements. The transfer of these regulations will have no regulatory effect and by moving the appendix section to the appropriate chapter this occupancy will be enforced more consistently.

SECTION 310 - REQUIREMENTS FOR GROUP R OCCUPANCIES

310.1 Group R Occupancies Defined. Group R Occupancies shall be:

Division 1. Hotels and apartment houses.

Congregate residences (each accommodating more than 10 persons).

Division 2. Not used.

...

Division 3. *Dwellings used for large family day-care homes (as defined in Chapter 2, Section 205) and lodging houses. Licensing categories that may use this classification include, but are not limited to: Adult Day-care Facilities, Family Day-care Homes, Adult Day-support Center, Day-care Center for Mildly Ill Children, Infant Care Center and School Age Child Day-care Center.*

Congregate residences (each accommodating 10 persons or less).

For occupancy separations, see Table 3-B.

A complete code for construction of detached one- and two-family dwellings is in Appendix Chapter 3, Division III, of this code. When adopted, as set forth in Section 101.3, it will take precedence over the other requirements set forth in this code

***Add R-6 Occupancies:**

GROUP R, DIVISION 6 OCCUPANCIES *shall be residential group care facilities which provide care and/or supervisory services. Restraint shall not be practiced in these facilities.*

Such residential group care facilities are limited to halfway houses such as community correctional centers, community correction reentry centers, community treatment programs, work furlough programs, and alcoholism or drug abuse recovery or treatment facilities.

GROUP R, DIVISION 6.1 OCCUPANCIES *are those Division 6 Occupancies with more than six nonambulatory residents.*

GROUP R, DIVISION 6.2 OCCUPANCIES *are those Division 6 Occupancies with more than six ambulatory residents.*

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GROUP R, DIVISION 6.1.1 A CCUPANCIES *are those Division 6 Occupancies with six or less nonambulatory residents.*

GROUP R, DIVISION 6.2.1 A OCCUPANCIES *are those Division 6 Occupancies with six or less ambulatory residents.*

SPECIFIC PURPOSE AND USE: Editorial. Format and numbering.

310.17 Requirements For Group R, Division 6 Occupancies

**RENUMBER The entire R-6.1 section as appropriate.*

SPECIFIC PURPOSE AND RATIONAL: Editorial

310.17.1 313A - GENERAL General

313A.1 Purpose. *The purpose of this division is to provide minimum standards of safety for group care facilities*

313A.2 Scope.

313A.2.1 General. *The provisions of this division shall apply to buildings or portions thereof that are to be used for Group R, Division 6 Occupancies.*

SECTION 314A - APPLICABILITY OF OTHER PROVISIONS *Except as specifically required by this division, Group R, Division 6 Occupancies shall meet all applicable provisions of this code pertaining to Group R, Division 1 Occupancies.*

SECTION 315A - DEFINITIONS *For the purpose of this division, certain terms are defined as follows:*

SECTION 316A CONSTRUCTION, HEIGHT AND ALLOWABLE AREA

316A.1 General. *Buildings or parts of buildings classed in Group R, Division 6 shall not exceed the limits of area, height and type of construction as specified for the following occupancies:*

Group R, Division 6.1-Group I, Division 1.1 Occupancies

Group R, Division 6.2-Group R, Division 1 Occupancies

Group R, Division 6.1.1 A-Group R, Division 3 Occupancies

Group R, Division 6.2.1 A-Group R, Division 3 Occupancies

EXCEPTIONS: *1. Buildings housing nonambulatory persons above the first floor shall be constructed of not less than Type V One- hour fire-resistive construction throughout.*

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2. Buildings which exceed two stories in height or when individual floor areas exceed 3,000 square feet (279 m²), shall be constructed of not less than Type V One-hour fire-resistive construction throughout.

316A.2 Mixed Occupancies. *Group R, Division 6 Occupancies shall be separated from Group H Occupancies by a four-hour fire- resistive occupancy separation and shall be separated from all other occupancies by a one-hour fire-resistive occupancy separation.*

EXCEPTIONS:

1. An occupancy separation need not be provided between any Group R, Division 6 Occupancy and a carport having no enclosed uses above, provided the carport is entirely open on two or more sides.

2. The one-hour occupancy separation between a Group R, Division 6 Occupancy and Group M, Division 1 Occupancy may be limited to the installation of materials approved for one-hour fire-resistive construction on the garage side and a self-closing, tight-fitting solid- wood door 1 3/8 inches (35 mm) in thickness will be permitted in lieu of a one-hour fire assembly. Fire dampers need not be installed in air ducts passing through the wall, floor or ceiling separating a Group R, Division 6 Occupancy from a Group M, Division 1 Occupancy, provided such ducts within the Group M Occupancy are constructed of steel having a thickness not less than 0.019 inch (0.48 mm) No. 26 galvanized sheet gage and have no openings into the Group M Occupancy.

SECTION 317A - LOCATION ON PROPERTY *Exterior walls located less than 3 feet*

(914 mm) from property lines shall be of one-hour fire-resistive construction. Openings shall not be permitted in exterior walls located less than 3 feet (914 mm) from property lines. For other requirements, see Section 503.

SECTION 318A - MEANS OF EGRESS AND EMERGENCY ESCAPES 318A.1

General. Group R, Division 6 Occupancies shall be provided with a means of egress as required by this section and 1998 the 2001 California Building Code.

EXCEPTIONS: 1. Corridors and Hallways serving an occupant load of 9 10 or less may be constructed in accordance with the provisions of Section 1004.3.3.

2. Corridors and hallways serving resident sleeping areas provided with direct or semidirect exiting may be constructed in accordance with the provisions of Section 1004.3.3.

SPECIFIC PURPOSE AND RATIONAL: Editorial.

Corridors and hallways are defined separately with specific requirements. This change is required to be consistent with the corridor requirements of Sections 1004.3.4.3 and 1007.6.1

318A.3.3 Openings. Where corridor and hallway walls are required to be of fire-resistive construction, openings shall be protected as per Section 1004.3.4.3.2 of this code.

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318A.4 Stairways. Stairways shall be constructed as required by Section 1003.3.3 of this code.

EXCEPTION: In buildings that are converted to a Group R, Division 6 Occupancy, existing stairways may have an 8-inch-maximum (203 mm) rise, 9-inch-minimum (229 mm) run and may be 30 inches (762 mm) in width.

318A.5 Ramps. Group R, Division 6 Occupancies housing nonambulatory residents shall have access to a ramp leading from the first story to the exterior of the building at the ground floor level.

318A.6 Emergency Exit Illumination. In the event of power failure, exit illumination shall be automatically provided from an emergency system. Emergency systems shall be supplied from storage batteries or an on-site generator set and the system shall be installed in accordance with the requirements of the Electrical Code.

EXCEPTION: Facilities which house 10 or less residents need not provide emergency illumination.

318A.7 Emergency Escape. Every sleeping room shall be provided with emergency escape or rescue facilities as required by Section 310.4 of this code.

EXCEPTION: Existing facilities having emergency escape installations acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

318A.8 Yards and Courts. Yards and courts shall be as specified in Section 1203.4.

318A.9 Automatic Sprinkler Systems. 318A.9.1 An automatic sprinkler system which complies with Chapter 9 shall be provided in Group R, Division 6.1 Occupancies.

318A.9.2 An automatic sprinkler system which complies with Chapter 9 shall be provided in Group R, Division 6 Occupancies which house nonambulatory persons above the first floor.

SECTION 319A - SHAFT ENCLOSURES

319A Exits shall be enclosed as specified in Chapter 10 for Group R, Division 1 Occupancies.

Elevator shafts, vent shafts, dumbwaiter shafts, clothes chutes and other vertical openings shall be enclosed and the enclosure shall be as specified in Section 711.

SECTION 320A - FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS

320A.1 *Group R, Division 6 Occupancies shall be provided with smoke alarms detectors as required by Section 310.9.1.*

An approved automatic fire alarm system which responds to products of combustion shall be provided in Group R, Divisions 6.1 and 6.2 Occupancies as required for Group R, Division 1 Occupancies.

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SPECIFIC PURPOSE AND RATIONAL:

A. Editorial. The term "smoke alarm" replaces the term "single-station smoke detector" per NFPA 72 (1996 & 1999 Editions), the adopted fire alarm standard.

A smoke alarm is a stand-alone device, with has an integral smoke detection sensor, control unit and notification sounder. A smoke detector is a separate initiating device, which is controlled and powered by a fire alarm control panel.

B. This text is redundant , and is being repealed for clarity. The code already requires R-6 Occupancies to have an automatic fire alarm system as per R-1 requirements. An automatic fire alarm system, by definition and design; *responds to products of combustion.*

EXCEPTIONS:

1. *Group R, Division 6.2 Occupancies housing persons none of whom are physically or mentally handicapped or nonambulatory and which provide supervisory services such as alcoholism or drug abuse recovery or treatment facilities, halfway houses operated by the California Department of Corrections, and similar facilities.*

2. *Group R, Division 6.2 Occupancies provided with an approved automatic sprinkler system. which complies with Chapter 9.*

3. *Group R, Division 6.1 Occupancies, an automatic fire alarm system is not required throughout, provided:*

a) *An automatic fire sprinkler system is installed throughout,*

b) *the sprinkler system is interconnected to the fire alarm system to notify all occupants upon sprinkler water-flow,*

c) *smoke detectors are provided at the fire alarm control panels, and in all interior corridors which serve an occupant load of more than 10,*

d) *and at least one manual fire alarm box is installed on all floors centrally located.*

SPECIFIC PURPOSE AND RATIONAL: The existing fire alarm requirements for R-6.1 occupancies are confusing, inconsistent and are less restrictive than the existing fire alarm requirements for hotels and apartments. This exception would align these fire alarm requirements.

320A.2 *When an automatic fire alarm system is not required, a manual pull station conforming to the California Electrical Code shall be provided at a location approved by the authority having jurisdiction. Such pull station shall actuate a distinctive the standard fire alarm signal which shall be audible throughout the facility. These devices need not be interconnected to any other fire alarm device, electrically supervised or provided with a secondary power source.*

SPECIFIC PURPOSE AND RATIONAL: Editorial

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320A.3 *Group R, Division 6 Occupancies which house persons who are hearing impaired shall be provided with notification appliances for the hearing impaired installed in accordance with NFPA 72G and which shall operate upon initiation of either an*

automatic fire alarm system or the smoke detectors required by Section 310.9.1.

SPECIFIC PURPOSE AND RATIONAL: Editorial. NFPA 72 G no longer exists as a separate standard. The requirements of NFPA 72 G are consolidated into NFPA 72 (1999).

SECTION 321A - LOCAL AMENDMENTS *The provisions of this appendix shall apply uniformly throughout the state, and no county, city, city and county, or district shall adopt or enforce any ordinance or local rule or regulation relating to fire and panic safety in buildings or structures subject to the provisions of this appendix, which is inconsistent with the provisions of this appendix, building standards published in the S*

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